## September 9, 1999 2641 '99 SEP 14 P1:58 Pockets Management Branch (HFA -305) Food AND Drug Administration 5630 Fishers LN Room 1061 Rockville, MD 20852 To whom it may concern; EACH YEAR the United States Egg INDUStry force molts (intentionally Starues for up to 14 days) millions of hers to manipulate egg popular production. Forced molting is so stressful it destroys the hens' immune system, predisposing the birds and their Eggs to SAlmonellA infection. The United States Department of Agriculture's food SABELY AND INSPECTION SERVICE. SAID & FSIS recognizES that public health conserns are raised by highly "Stressful forced molting practices. The SDA who bans the practices that injure human health on farms. The primary CAUSE of infectious disEASES at IN hens eggs AND CONSumers of 2993 is from forced molting. A petition that was given to the FDA last gene Still hasn't been granted AND Should be.

Sincepely, Lh Bat LEVANAH BARTENS

RE: Docket Numbers:

98N-1230,96P-0418,97P-0197

LEVANAH BARTENS WIR A 1916-1 3990 FIFTH AVE

968-0418

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Levandra Baratens Touse A 1416-1 3490 Fifth Aux pitsburgl, PA 15213

DOCKETS MGMT. BrANCH (HFA-30S) FDA 5630 Fishers LN RM 1601 Rockville, MD 20852

## **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

## FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

## **CROSS REFERENCE SHEET**

Docket Number/Item Code: 98N-1230/C547

See Docket Number/Item Code: 97P-0197/C548

96P-0418/C547